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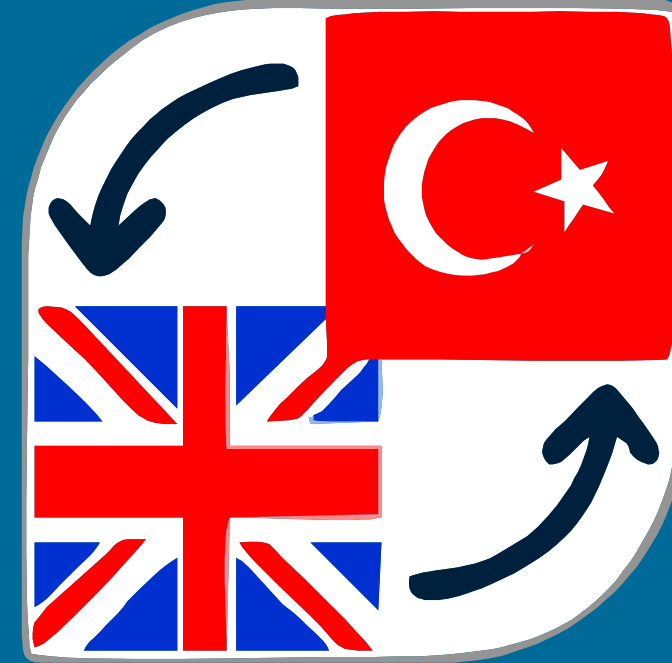


TURKISH OF TODAY:
AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

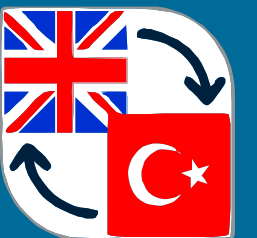
DR. ZUBAIR ZAFAR KHAN

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İZZET HAMİT ÜN



**TRANSLATED BY
DR. ZUBAIR ZAFAR KHAN**



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An English Translation

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Forward

I am very happy to see that Dr. Zubair Zafar Khan translated the Turkish language learning book ‘Turkish of Today’ authored by Late İzzet Hamit Ün. The book is very popular and useful for foreign students to learn Turkish. I hope this translation will be more helpful for Turkish students. I pray for its success. God bless the translator and the author.



Prof. Muhammad Ismail
Chairman
Department of Islamic Studies
Aligarh Muslim University
11 November 2020.

Contents

Forward.....	3
Contents	5
The Turkish Alphabet (Türkçe Alfabe)	7
Birinci Ders (First Lesson)	9
İkinci Ders (Second Lesson)	13
Üçüncü ders (Third lesson)	20
Dördüncü Ders (Fourth Lesson)	27
Beşinci Ders (Fifth Lesson).....	32
Altıncı (Sixth Lesson).....	36
Yedinci Ders (Seventh lesson)	41
Sekizinci Ders (Eighth lesson)	46
Dokuzuncu Ders (Ninth Lesson)	52
Onuncu Ders (Tenth Lesson)	56
On Birinci Ders (Eleventh Lesson).....	60
On İkinci Ders (Twelfth Lesson)	63
On Üçüncü Ders (Thirteenth Lesson).....	68
On Dördüncü Ders (Fourteenth Lesson)	73
Bay Üstün ailesi (Mr. Üstün's family).....	80
On Beşinci Ders (Fifteenth Lesson).....	83
Lokantada (In Restaurant)	86
Türkiye Hakkında Bilgiler (Information About Turkey)	91
On Altıncı Ders (Sixteenth Lesson).....	94
İstanbulun Görülecek Binaları (Buildings to See in Istanbul)	96

İstanbulda Görülecek Yerler (Places to See in Istanbul).....	99
Hasta Olunca (When a Patient).....	102
Terzi Dükkânında (Tailor Shop).....	105
Nasrettin Hoca Hikâyeleri (Nasrettin Hodja Stories).....	109
Ata Sözlere (Proverbs).....	112
Eğlenceler (Entertainment/ Fun).....	114
Vücutumuz (Our Body).....	118
Ticaret (Commerce).....	120
Ağustosböceği İle Karınca (The August Insect (grasshopper) and the Ant) ..	125
Summary of the Poem	127
Foreign Words Used Freely in Turkish.....	128
Vocabulary (Turkish – English).....	135
Vocabulary(English – Turkish).....	154
Accents	172
Grave Accents	172
Acute (Aigu) Accents	172
Circumflex Accents	173
Tilde Accents.....	173
Umlaut Accents	174
Cedilla Accents.....	174

A New Direct and Combined Method for the Study of Turkish

The Turkish Alphabet

(Türkçe Alfabe)

Turkish pronunciation based on the recently adopted Turkish alphabet is very simple. But some of the vowel sounds have no equivalent in English, and a good teacher is essential if the correct pronunciation is to be acquired.

The Vowels:

The vowels are divided into two groups- front vowels (those formed in the front of the mouth) and back vowels (those formed in the back of the mouth).

FRONT VOWELS:

e	Pronounce as English <e> in <bed>
i	Pronounce as English <i> in <machine>
ö	Pronounce as French <eu> in <deux> (I)
ü	Pronounce as French <u> in <tu> (I)

(I) There is no corresponding English vowel sounds.

BACK VOWELS:

a	Pronounce as English <a> in <father>
ı	Pronounce as English <ir> in <fir> (II)
o	Pronounce as English <au> in <fault>
u	Pronounce as English <oo> in <stood>

(II) This vowel sound can only be acquired by practice. It resembles the English <ir> in <fir> but it is said further back in the throat.

This important distinction between the front and back vowels dominates the construction of the Turkish language, as will be explained later.

THE CONSONANTS:

b	Pronounce as English in <bed>
c	Pronounce as English <j> in <jest>
d	Pronounce as English <d> in <dog>
f	Pronounce as English <f> in <fat>
g	Pronounce as English <g> in <got> See the note.(I)
ğ	Pronounce, See the note.(II)
h	Pronounce as English <h> in <hat>
j	Pronounce as English <g> in <barrage>
k	Pronounce as English <k> in <key> See the note. (I)
l	Pronounce as English <l> in <like> See the note.(III)
m	Pronounce as English <m> in <mother>
n	Pronounce as English <n> in <nut>
p	Pronounce as English <p> in <ped>
r	Pronounce as English <r> in <run>
s	Pronounce as English <s> in <send>
ş	Pronounce as English <sh> in <shut>
t	Pronounce as English <t> in <top>
v	Pronounce as English <v> in <very>
y	Pronounce as English <y> in <yet>
z	Pronounce as English <z> in <zebra>

Notes:

- [I]- «g» and «k» are pronounced as though «gi» «ki» — before certain words of foreign origin in which the letter is followed by «â» or «û»—Ex: Kâr [profit], pronounced «kiar» and rüzgâr [wind], pronounced «ruzgiar».
- [II]- «ğ» has no English equivalent. It is pronounced almost as «y» in «yet» if preceded by a front vowel- and prolongs the vowel sound if preceded by a back vowel. Ex: Ağaç [tree]- pronounced «a- atch», iğne [needle]- pronounced «eey-ne».
- [III]- «l» is pronounced slightly more hardly in Turkish than in English, except when followed by [â] or [û] when it becomes like the normal English «l». Ex; lâim [necessary], lâumlu [useful].

Birinci Ders (First Lesson)

Kalem (pencil), — kitap (book), — defter (copy- book), — kâğıt (paper).	
Bu (this), — şu (that), — ne? (what?) — evet (yes).	
Bu ne? (What is this?) — Kalem.	What is this? — Pencil
Şu ne? — Kitap.	What is that? - Book.
Bu ne? — defter.	What is this? Note- book.
Bu nedir?	What is this?
Şu nedir?	What is that?
Şu bir gazetedir (That is a newspaper) [1]	
Bu kalem mi? — Evet, kalem.	Is this a pencil? - Yes, pencil.
Şu kitap mı? — Evet, kitap.	Is that book? — Yes, book.
Bu defter mi? [2]	Is this a note- book?
Bu kalem midir? — Evet, kalemdir.	Is this a pencil? - Yes, it's a pen.
Şu bir kitap mıdır?	Is that a book?
Bu bir defter midir?	Is this a note- book?
Şu adam İzzet midir? (Is that man Izzet?)	
Bu adam Mr. Charles mıdır?	Is this man Mr. Charles?
Şu Ernest midir?	Is that Ernest?

-
1. (d-r) is the 3rd person singular of the verb To Be. It is joined as a suffix to predicative words and is governed by the important Law of Euphony.
(First Law): If the vowel in the last syllable of the word is (e or i) the vowel in the verb suffix (which is shown by a dash), will be (ı) - dir.
If the last vowel is (a or ı), the vowel in the verb-suffix will be (i) — dir.
If the last vowel is (ö,ü) the vowel in the verb suffix will be (ü) — dür.
If the last vowel is (o, u) the vowel will be (u) — dur. In other words, the 3rd person singular of the verb (to be) will take the following forms according to the Law of Euphony, just explained, and we shall have (dir. dir, dür, dur). Words ending with (ç, f, h, k, p, s, ş, t) change the (d) of the verbal suffix into (t) and we have: tir, tir, tür, tur.
 2. The interrogative particle (mi) obeys the same law as (d-r). However, it is never joined to the predicate but written separately. Thus we have: midir, midir, müdür, mudur.